

Silverstone Fox Canadian GM

Intern'l Offers 7 From Hwd. E-Lion

Seven Eagle-Lion (Hollywood) features and two Edward Small reissues will be the next group released by International Films, David Griesdorf informed the eastern branch managers of that company at the recent sales meeting in Toronto. Among those

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Veteran Staffers Honored By MGM

Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer employees in the Toronto branch and the Canadian head office with ten and more years of service with the company were presented with pins bearing diamond chips at the recent seasonal affair. The pins, carrying a star for each ten

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Welcome New Dominion Chief At Toronto Trade Gathering

Leading figures of Canadian exhibition and distribution, as well as newspaper and trade press representatives, were present at a luncheon in the Royal York Hotel, Toronto, last week to welcome Arthur Silverstone, newly-appointed general manager of the Dominion division of 20th Century-Fox Film Corporation. Silverstone fills the post left vacant when Sydney Samson retired recently for health reasons.

Blumberg Heads MPAA Group

Chairman of the new public relations committee of the Motion Picture Association of America is Nate Blumberg, president of Universal studios. It is made up of leading executives in the industry. Ex-officio members are Charles Schlaifer, 20th-Fox ad-pub director and chairman of the Advertising - Publicity Directors Committee, and Kenneth W. Clark, national director of the MPAA info service.

Committee will challenge public misinformation and unfair attacks on the industry.

Andrew W. Smith, Jr. attended, this being his first visit to Canada since he became general sales manager for the parent company in June, 1945, at which time this country, for years a

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Pic Pioneers Set Annual Meeting

The national meeting of the Canadian Picture Pioneers will be held in the King Edward Hotel, Toronto, on January 22nd and delegates from various branches in the Dominion will be on hand to fraternize with Ontario members.

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Ken Garbig Elected

K. G. (Ken) Garbig, manager of 20th Century Theatres' Kent Theatre, Lindsay, Ontario, was elected to the council of that lively city for the 1947 term in the recent elections.

Gift of Land for Variety Village



The Honorable George A. Drew, Premier of Ontario (left) is shown presenting Barker Conny Smythe (right) with the deed for land donated gratis by the citizens of the province to the Society for Crippled Children. Looking on are John J. Fitzgibbons and Morris Stein, the No. 1 and 2 men of Tent 28, Toronto, Variety International, which will build a \$100,000 vocational school and residence for crippled children on the site. The presentation was made at the Maple Leaf Gardens during the hockey game for the fund arranged by Smythe, who is president, and his associates.

Kaufman Eastern Div Mgr. For Cardinal

Harry Kaufman, Canadian industry figure of long standing, returns to the distribution field as eastern manager of Cardinal Films, Limited, it has been announced by Harry J. Allen, president of the recently-organized company. Kaufman's headquarters will be in Montreal at 5875 Monkland Avenue.

Cardinal Films was organized by Allen and associates some time ago and they have established offices in every exchange centre in Canada for the distribution of the product of Screen Guild, Film Classics, Devonshire and other American

(Continued on Page 3)

USP Buys Original

United States Pictures has purchased Fannie Hurst's original story, "Sister Act," for filming as a musical.

FPCC Buys Prop. In Guelph, Vanc'r

Famous Players has purchased the properties on which are located two theatres operated by the company, the Capitol, Guelph, Ontario, and the Lyric, Vancouver.

The Capitol site includes stores and apartments and the theatre will be remodelled. The Lyric, acquired from Robert Scott, opened as the International Cinema on Christmas Day with "Wings of the Morning" and policy will be art and foreign films. Norman Duncan is the manager.

Watch PATHE in 1948 for the BEST in BRITISH FILMS

Released in Canada by INTERNATIONAL FILM DISTRIBUTORS Limited

MGM Canadian Veterans Honored at Party



Veteran Staffers Honored By MGM

(Continued from Page 1)

year or over, were adorned with the MGM lion, the eyes of which were diamond chips, and the name "Loew's-MGM."

Henry L. Nathanson, Canadian general manager, made the presentations and was in turn presented with a two-star pin by Ted Gould, sales manager, who had also received a two-star pin.

Head office executives and staff members with two-star pins are Henry L. Nathanson, Claude Alexander, Elizabeth Bissland, Winslow Brown, Kathleen Davidson, T. J. Gould, Georgina Higgins, Howard Mulholland, Mrs. M. Oake, Edna R. Smythe, F. J. Young and James Eastwood; and those in the Toronto branch are Alice Gelinis, Robert McBain, Joe Simon, William Travers and Dorothy E. Wilson.

One-star pin holders in head office are Dewey Bloom, Marie Collins, Ella Herbert and Edith Kuthbert; and those in the Toronto branch are Garfield Cass, Olive Copleston, Herb Kressler, Ambrose McCracken, Mrs. Anne McLean, Eleanor Rossiter, Marcia Simkins and Reg Wilson.

Members of the staff of Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer in Canada of ten and 20 years' service were presented with pins at the annual Christmas party. The top photo shows the Toronto branch members who were honored and they are, from left to right, Olive Copleston, Mrs. Annie McLean, Herb Kressler, Eleanor Rossiter, Bill Travers, Reg Wilson, Joe Simon, Garfield Cass, Marcia Simkins, Alice Gelinis, Dorothy Wilson and Ambrose McCracken.

The lower photo shows the head office pin bearers who are, left to right, Howard Mulholland, Elizabeth Bissland, Edith Kuthbert, Win Brown, Frank Young, Georgina Higgins, Dewey Bloom, Ella Herbert, Kathleen Davidson, Marie Collins, Ted Gould, Mrs. Oake, Henry Nathanson, Edna Smythe, Jim Eastwood and Claude Alexander.

Robinson Added To WB's 'Key Largo'

Warners has set Edward G. Robinson to star with Humphrey Bogart and Lauren Bacall in "Key Largo," the Maxwell Anderson drama scheduled to go before the cameras soon, with John Huston directing and Jerry Wald producing. Lionel Barrymore has also been set for an important role in the film which is being scripted by Richard Brooks.

Buys 'Favorite Son'

Monogram has bought Thomas Rafter's "Favorite Son" from Roy Del Ruth for early production.

E-L Signs Stars For 'Assigned To Danger'

Gene Raymond and Noreen Nash have been signed for the starring leads in Eagle-Lion (Hollywood) Films' forthcoming "Assigned to Danger," melodrama which Ben Stoloff will produce and which goes before the cameras in the near future.

Set Final Title

"My Girl Tisa" has been set as the final title for the United States Pictures' production formerly known as "Tisa." Lilli Palmer and Sam Wanamaker are starred in the film, which will be released by Warner Brothers.

Pic Pioneers Set Annual Meeting

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The meeting, which is the seventh annual one, will be presided over by Oscar Hanson, president. Jack Arthur is vice-president and Ray Lewis secretary.

Registration is at one o'clock and this will be followed by meetings. Dinner will be in the Crystal Ballroom at 6.30 p.m. A program of entertainment will follow the dinner. This has been arranged by Leonard Bishop and Charlie Mavety and Pioneers will participate in it.

Subscription is set at \$5 per person.

20th-Fox Changes Titles Of Two Pix

Twentieth Century-Fox studio has changed the titles of two of its forthcoming pictures. "That Lady In Ermine," is the new title of the Betty Grable-Douglas Fairbanks, Jr., film previously known as "This Is the Moment" and "Deep Waters" is the revised title for "Deep Water," starring Dana Andrews and Jean Peters.

Harry Kaufman Joins Cardinal

(Continued from Page 1)

and British companies. Personnel is still being added.

The new eastern division manager of Cardinal Films has been out of the film business for over 18 months, during which time he was a partner in an auto accessories enterprise with David Romberg, who is interested in the Metro Theatre, Toronto.

Prior to that he was Canadian general manager of Monogram Pictures of Canada, a position from which he resigned early in 1945. He came to Monogram in September, 1942, when Oscar Hanson and the late Arthur Lee acquired the Canadian franchise, which had formerly been held by Regal, now MGM. Before joining Monogram he was Canadian sales manager of PRC under Allen, with whom he now renews his association.

Kaufman has a long and varied record in the motion picture industry in Canada and the United States. In 1912 he joined the Allens and headed the Montreal office when that company became the first Famous Players. He was subsequently connected in important capacities with Metro and Consolidated Theatres, and at one time operated his own Independent exchange.

Odeon Theatre Fire

The 426-seat Odeon Theatre in Abbotsford, BC, was the scene of a recent fire that caused \$4,000 damage. No one was injured but some 100 guests in a nearby hotel vacated their rooms when the flames threatened to spread from the theatre.

NATIONAL

Booking Co. Hermant Building

Wish to announce that the following independent theatres have recently joined our booking and buying association:

Bancroft Theatre, Bancroft.

Rex Theatre, London.

Queen's Theatre, Hespeler.

Imperial Theatre, Humberstone.

Vogue Theatre, Toronto.

Fox Theatre, Toronto.

Enquiries Respectfully Solicited

HAROLD KAY, Manager

Silverstone New Fox Dominion Chief

(Continued from Page 1)

district, was made one of 20th-Fox' six divisions.

Among those on hand from the exhibition section of the Canadian motion picture industry were John J. Fitzgibbons, CBE, president of Famous Players Canadian Corporation; the Honorable J. Earl Lawson, KC; managing director of Odeon Theatres of Canada; Nat A. Taylor, head of 20th Century Theatres; Jule Allen, senior officer of Theatre Holding Corporation; Sam Bloom and Sam Fine of B & F Theatres; Sam Fingold, president of National Theatre Services; Clare Appel, president of the Motion Picture Theatres Association of Ontario; and Ben Freedman, president of Allied Co-Operative.

In welcoming Silverstone to Canada Fitzgibbons, who was introduced by Smith, spoke of the regard in which Sydney Samson is held and praised the past contributions of 20th Century-Fox to the industry in Canada. "We have in our minds the hope and the desire to do the best we can for the people of Canada through the instrument which is our industry," he said. "We are in a business that can pull its share of the load with any business in any country and we welcome Arthur Silverstone to our group."

Haskell Masters welcomed the new Fox chief for the Canadian distributors. Smith, who acted as chairman, recalled his long friendship in this country, discussed the Fox film roster, particularly "Gentleman's Agreement," and praised Silverstone, who, in a short speech, expressed his pleasure at being the company's top officer in the Dominion.

The new Canadian chief for 20th-Fox was born in New York in 1902 and entered the industry in 1920 as an assistant cameraman with International Newsreel. In 1924 he joined the British sales staff of United Artists and progressed within the company until, in 1938, he was made general sales manager and assistant to the joint managing directors for the United Kingdom.

In 1939 Silverstone came to

New York on business and while there war intervened and he was appointed to the home office as assistant to the eastern general sales manager in the domestic territory. In 1940 he became eastern district manager for New York, Philadelphia and Washington.

He quit UA in 1942 to join Sam Bronsten Productions as world-wide representative and in August, 1943, was appointed home office representative for 20th Century-Fox International Corporation, in December of that year becoming special sales representative for 20th Century-Fox, Limited, with offices in London, England.

In 1944 Silverstone was promoted to joint assistant managing directorship of the Fox British organization. He was recalled to the home office of 20th Century-Fox International Corporation, New York, late in December, 1947, where he remained until his present appointment.

John Kurk Head Of Ottawa Managers

John Kurk, manager of the Imperial Theatre in Ottawa, was elected president of the Ottawa District Managers Association at a recent election meeting at Chez Henri, Hull. Kurk succeeds Angelo Stevens, who retired from the industry.

Panic Prevented By Kitchener Manager

A near panic was prevented in the crowded Capitol Theatre in Kitchener, Ontario, recently by the quick action of the manager, John C. Musclove. Excited patrons screamed and rushed for exits when a man raced into the theatre and yelled "fire," but serious consequences were averted by the manager, who battled to the stage and calmed the crowd after ordering the lights turned on.

Actual blaze occurred in an adjoining apartment, caused by a spark from electrical equipment on a Christmas tree. All available Kitchener fire-fighting equipment turned out and had the fire under control in 20 minutes without any damage being done to the theatre.



ARTHUR SILVERSTONE

On January 1st he became Canadian general manager for 20th Century-Fox Film Corporation.

Regular Admissions For Fox' 'Castile'

Twentieth Century-Fox has decided to release "Captain From Castile" at regular admission prices, it was announced recently by Andy W. Smith, Jr., general sales manager. The picture will be sold at 50-50 terms.

"Captain From Castile," which was two years in the making, is one of the most important pictures ever produced by the company. It was filmed in Mexico in Technicolor with Tyrone Power starred. A cast of thousands is headed by such important players as Jean Peters, Cesar Romero, John Sutton and Lee J. Cobb.

Curtiz To Produce

Michael Curtiz Productions will film "The Gay Nineties."

FOR THEATRE REQUIREMENTS
CONTRACT SALES OFFICE
EATON'S

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HYE BOSSIN, Managing Editor

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Heard and Overheard



Lines and Outlines

One Man, One Chance

A poor habitant was walking along a Quebec road when a farmer, driving several cows ahead of him, appeared.

"What lovely animals you have there, friend," the habitant said longingly.

"They are that," agreed the farmer.

"I too would like to own at least one cow but I have always been too poor."

The farmer decided to have sport with the habitant. He pointed to a frog in a slimy puddle. "If you swallow that I will give you a cow." The possibility of such a thing being accomplished was unthinkable to him.

The habitant thought about it, then decided to try it. After several horrible experiences he succeeded. True, he was nauseated but he was not unhappy, for he was about to satisfy a lifelong desire.

The farmer was upset by the habitant's feat and very angry with himself. To lose a cow just because this man was insane enough to do this thing! He begged the habitant not to make him keep the bargain and pleaded that his wife would make his homecoming unbearable.

"But," said the habitant, "you said if I swallowed the frog—"

"Yes, yes, I know," argued the farmer, "but a cow for a mere frog!" He saw that the habitant would not release him from his promise and this gave rise to an idea. "I gave you a chance and now you owe me one. I'll swallow a frog and that will end the matter. After all, it is only fair."

This habitant was a kindly soul, a man of simple goodness. The more he thought on it, the more the farmer's problem became his own. His plea did have some degree of justice to it.

One hope there was. He knew what he had gone through to win the cow. That was because he had none and wanted one badly. But the farmer had several with him and likely more at home. He would soon give up any idea of swallowing a frog, for he didn't have the same incentive. The habitant agreed to let the farmer try.

In a few minutes it was over. Gone was the dream of a lifetime. The farmer had matched his effort by swallowing a frog.

Sadly both men, shaking their heads and mumbling in great perplexity, continued on separate ways.

"Now why," each was asking himself, "did I swallow that frog?"

An Interesting Discussion

We were one of those who listened to the discussion of whether "Gentleman's Agreement" and "Crossfire" were beneficial or detrimental to Christian-Jewish relations. It was held at the McCaul Street Synagogue and Louis Herman, KC, Sol Allen and Rabbi Reuben Slonim participated. They all agreed that the films would help fight anti-Semitism. Sol certainly presented some unusual opinions. The Rabbi—humorously, of course, —said that when he asked one film man where he could find a trade executive capable of an intelligent critique about the films, the reply was that "There ain't no such animal." But in Sol, whose newest book will be about anti-Semitism, the Rabbi found his man. There must be at least one or two more around, though . . . My recent story about the horse given an honorary degree left some readers blank. Perhaps if the punchline had read "This is the first time we have ever conferred an honorary degree on a complete horse," instead of "full horse," the point would have been clearer . . . The UA publicity boys got off a real good story when they polled projectionists on the year's best films and stars. Those film-weary boys picked "Body and Soul," as the film they minded least seeing day after day and Garfield and Lana Turner time after time . . . At Chalk River the National Research Council is developing a camera capable of operating at 200,000 frames a second. Maybe it can make a slow feature seem faster.

Stop, You're Joking Me!

At the Odeon party at Vanity Fair, which is always distinguished by the results of culinary genius and the warm welcoming of Earl Lawson and his Odeon lads, Dave Ongley showed up in formal attire, he being bound elsewhere after. One wag suggested that he wear a lightup sign reading, "See Black Narcissus" on the boiled shirt. "And," added Leonard Brockington, "I Know Where I'm Going" on the back". . . Nat Taylor, head of 20th Century and John Robinette, famed criminal lawyer, were reminiscing about Osgoode Hall days, when the former was a last-year student and the latter a lecturer. Taylor, like Harry Mandell, Gurston Allen, Lou Davidson and other theatre men, is a graduate of that law school . . . Paul Maynard has acquired the Kino Theatre from Norman Clavir . . . The Ben Geldsalers New Year's Day gathering, almost a tradition now, provided the same old informal, intimate and friendly spirit which makes it seem to end all too soon.

A fellow who did right nice for Variety was the old-time all-time athlete, Harry Sniderman of the Adelaide Hotel. Harry set up a selling agency in his hostelry and, with the aid of his famed ability for personal persuasion, got rid of plenty of pasteboards . . . The Lorne Green school has a music arranging course for radio and motion pictures which is directed by Lucio Agostini . . . Roly Young's "Aladdin '47" was a right bright piece of work by that screen scribe and his Civic Theatre Association. Some of it tore hunks of skin off his critical colleagues but it was all in fun, of which there was plenty. Knowing that most home-grown productions are not as well attended as they should be, I imagined that the cast would, at the end of the performance, step out and shout "Patron! Patron!" But it was almost a sellout.

Arthur Gottlieb and Hans Tiesler will entertain trade folk and others at the official opening of Audio and Film Lab in their new Lakeshore building, which contains a steam bath. Date is the 17th . . . Famous Players 25 Year Club will hold its fourth anniversary dinner at the King Edward on January 13th . . . Toast: "Here's to 1948. May it leave us be in peace" . . . The Glendale and the North End Lion's Club entertained 200 orphans and underprivileged kids of all races and creeds with a film and stage show and distributed fruit and novelties . . . Steve McManus back in show business as manager of the Odeon, Kingston, after a spell at the Palace, Hamilton . . . Cartoon idea: Santa before a desk sergeant saying, "I wish to report a stolen sleigh."

Inflation All Over

That's the title of a story which arrived here by mail, with no indication of the paper it was clipped from. The story:

As the little man crept into the movie theatre and took his seat in the last row it was obvious from his doleful expression that he had much on his mind and was sadly in need of recreation.

On the screen an old-fashioned melodrama unfolded, a production doubtless made long ago and now "reissued." Came the scene where the heroine, lured all unsuspecting to the villain's lair, suddenly realized with horror that his intentions were anything but honorable. Providentially she discovered the handy carving-knife.

"Stand back, you unspeakable cad," she cried, brandishing the weapon. "I may be only a poor, weak, friendless woman — but by Heaven, I shall sell my honor dearly!"

"Profiteers," shouted the troubled little man. "Everywhere you go, it's high prices."

And with that he bolted out of the theatre and disappeared into the night.

Russian Ballerina

with Galina Ulanova

Artkino 75 Mins.
SHOULD PLEASE FOREIGN SPOT
AUDIENCE: HAS YOUTHFUL AP-
PEAL.

Completely without any propa-
ganda and adhering constantly
to a simple story pattern, this
Russian import in the hands of
an alert exhibitor has possibili-
ties. A glimpse at ballet statistics
in the local area will indicate the
potential audience. In addition to
filling the bill where Russian-
made product has steady patron-
age, the attraction should also
fit into the majority of foreign
film situations.

It is a well-produced job that
at intervals manages moments of
striking terpsichore. Generally
the cast is composed of young-
sters. Chief work performed is
the Tchaikowsky "Swan Lake"
number, rendered with fine skill
by Galina Ulanova of the Lenin-
grad State Theatre of Opera and
Ballet.

In short the scenario is the
familiar success story of aspiring
young hopefuls. To this has been
added boy-meets-girl, and the ex-
pert supervision of ballet veter-
ans who encourage innovations
created by the students that vary
from basic forms of original bal-
let works.

Settings, camera work, music
and performances are up to any
international standard. It is with-
out "message" and evolves an en-
tertainment of interesting calibre.
A. V. Ivanovsky directed.

CAST: Maria Redina, Vladimir Kazanov-
vitch, Nadia Yestrebova, Olga Zhizneva.

CREDITS: Produced at Lenfilm Stud-
ios; Director, A. V. Ivanovsky; Scenario,
A. Erlich, A. V. Ivanovsky; Camera, A.
Kalstatt; English titles, C. Clement;
Music, P. Tchaikowsky, B. Pushkov; Bal-
let, V. Ponomarev.

DIRECTION, Good. PHOTOGRAPHY,
Good.

Gleason As 'Rip'

James Gleason has been set by
King Bros. for the title role in
"Rip Van Winkle," which Allied
Artists will release.

Redgrave Top Actor

The National Board of Review
of Motion Pictures has named
Michael Redgrave, former Brit-
ish star now in Hollywood, "the
actor giving the best perfor-
mance of the year" for his role as
Orin Mannon in RKO's "Mourn-
ing Becomes Electra."

Green Dolphin Street

with Lana Turner, Van Heflin, Donna Reed, Richard Hart

MGM

141 Mins.

IT'S BIG! WOMEN WILL LOVE IT. SUPERBLY CAST, ACTED, DIRECTED
AND PRODUCED. MULTIPLE DRAWING POWER. THE KIND OF PICTURE
THEY COME BACK TO SEE AGAIN.

Here is an example of film making that could easily rank as a
classic of these trying times. It could stand above and apart in the
annals of story telling via sound and photography. It is a profound,
impressive display of complete understanding in what was required
from the dozen technical departments which create a production.
Their rendering is a consummate achievement. Victor Saville's de-
mands on his resources brought forth the best possible response.
"Green Dolphin Street" has the hallmark.

You can call this a woman's picture. It is that. It is also a heroic
size collection of the exotic; of adventure, of strange locations, sea-
scapes, poignant drama, a display of talent, a job of mounting a
production that never once permits the optic sense to dwell upon a
static moment or the ear to pick up a sound that does not heighten
visual perception. There are sounds here that are strikingly new.
There is visual spectacle of violent natural upheavals paralyzing to
the spectator.

Lana Turner's performance is a revelation and brings her close
to the pinnacle of her career. Van Heflin's role is virile, understood;
it engraves itself in sharp strokes. Donna Reed and Richard Hart
render with thorough conviction and striking effectiveness.

The Channel Island of St. Pierre is where the story begins.
Nearby, on what is a startling reproduction of the Abbey of Mont St.
Michel, but here described as a convent, lives an order of nuns. The
tale starts and ends there.

The Misses Turner and Reed are daughters of Edmund Gwenn.
The family business is shipping. Van Heflin is a woodcarving admirer
of Miss Turner. She is quite unaware of the feeling he nurtures for
her. Frank Morgan and his son, Hart, come to live on Green Dolphin
Street. Morgan is a doctor who at one time was in love with Gladys
Cooper, wife to Gwenn. It would have turned out a bad marriage
which is the reason Miss Cooper followed a pattern contrary to the
dictates of her emotions.

The girls set their caps for Hart. Miss Turner is a bold, straight-
forward, clearthinking and impulsive type while Miss Reed is sweetly
feminine. A sort of three-cornered affair develops. Miss Turner ar-
ranges for Hart to enter the Royal Navy. He returns in two years.
Morgan dies. Hart sails on a lengthy cruise that lands him in China.
He sends a trinket to Miss Reed and indicates he wants to marry her.
He has a setback. A Chinese girl lures him. He winds up in the
gutter, his ship has sailed, he is a deserter.

Reginald Owen, skipper of the Green Dolphin, takes him to New
Zealand where he meets up with Heflin. Previously Heflin killed a
man in St. Pierre and ran away. Hart and Heflin prosper in timber.
Hart later sends for Miss Turner. He wrote a letter in a drunken daze
and asked for Marianne, instead of Marguerite, to come out to New
Zealand to be his wife. Miss Turner shows up and Heflin forces Hart
to go through with the loveless marriage.

They live among semi-wild Maoris. There is an earthquake and
tidal wave. Miss Turner bears her child. Always it is Miss Turner
who tries to dictate what should be. Native trouble ensues. Heflin
saves them. They are soon out of the timber business. Hart and Miss
Turner enter sheep raising, prosper, start a steamship line. Then
they return to St. Pierre, Hart forgiven by the RN.

Here the most poignant moments transpire. Both Miss Cooper
and Gwenn are dead. Miss Reed has indicated she will become a nun.
Miss Turner discovers the initial error in Hart's Chinese trinket and
the New Zealand letter but since they have each accommodated the
other's faults and found love they reach the understanding that there
has been created a love far stronger than former adolescent affection.

CAST: Lana Turner, Van Heflin, Donna Reed, Richard Hart, Frank Morgan,
Edmund Gwenn, Dame May Whitty, Reginald Owen, Gladys Cooper, Moyna MacGill.

CREDITS: Producer, Carey Wilson; Director, Victor Saville; Screenplay, Samson
Raphaelson; Based on the novel by Elizabeth Goudge; Photography, George Folsey.
DIRECTION, Superb. PHOTOGRAPHY, Splendid.

The Lost Moment

with Robert Cummings, Susan Hayward
Empire-Universal 88½ Mins.

HAS A QUALITY OF DIFFERENCE
THAT SHOULD CAUSE IT TO CATCH
ON VIA WORD OF MOUTH.

Henry James' "The Aspern
Papers" is the literary work from
which this film is derived. Like a
number of other James works
with which the general film-going
public is not too conversant, it
deals with abnormal psychologi-
cal phenomena. It, however, is no
high falutin' excursion into the
realm of mental therapy or a
psychiatric diatribe.

Cummings, an American pub-
lisher, comes to Venice seeking
profoundly impressive love letters
left behind by a famous poet of
the romantic era who passed
from the scene years previously.
He poses as a writer and engages
a room in the palazzo of Agnes
Moorehead, the recipient of the
love letters. She has passed the
century mark. She is aunt to
Susan Hayward, cold, mysterious,
aloof and who dominates the
household. On the night of his
arrival, Cummings hears strange
music and discovers Miss Hay-
ward is a most unusual state.
She makes Cummings feel he is
her lover and encourages him.
Next day she is her former self.

Cummings is advised to leave
the house by Eduardo Ciannelli,
local priest, who fears things will
get beyond control. Miss Moore-
head is blind, but has keen hear-
ing and is fully aware of what is
going on in the house. There fol-
lows another meeting with Miss
Hayward and he becomes aware
she is two people, her normal
self and a creature given to
trances in which she becomes
Miss Moorehead of an old day.

Cummings learns Miss Moore-
head killed her poet-lover when
he became enamoured of another
woman. He is buried in the gar-
den. When the letters are missing
Miss Hayward attacks Miss
Moorehead. A fire breaks out.
Miss Moorehead is rescued but
dies in the garden. Miss Hayward
snaps out of her daze.

CAST: Robert Cummings, Susan Hay-
ward, Agnes Moorehead, Joan Lorring,
Eduardo Ciannelli, John Archer.

CREDITS: Produced by Walter Wanger
Pictures, Inc.; Screenplay by Leonardo
Bercovici; Based on a novel by Henry
James; Director, Martin Gabel; Photogra-
phy, Hal Mohr.

DIRECTION, Very Good. PHOTO-
GRAPHY, Fine.



HARRY KAUFMAN

He returns to the film trade as eastern division manager of Cardinal Films, Limited, with headquarters in Montreal.

Tax Delegation In Ottawa Soon

Representatives of the recently formed National Committee of Motion Picture Exhibitors Associations of Canada will call on the Hon. Douglas C. Abbott, the Dominion's finance minister, in Ottawa some time this month to explain the effect of the 20 per cent federal tax on theatres and to seek points of agreement with him which they hope may lead to its removal.

Mr. Abbott stated previously that he found interesting the willingness of exhibitors not to raise prices if and when the tax is dropped. To remove any doubts in his mind that the entire benefit of the tax would be passed on to the public, exhibitors' associations sought pledges from the individual exhibitor after the organizations went on record.

Pledge cards were distributed in the various provinces to each theatre and 90 per cent of these have come back signed. They are still coming in and complete unanimity is expected.

Statistics prove that generally the number of admissions to theatres is decreasing and that every time admission prices are raised they will decrease further. Conversely, when admission prices are lowered admissions increase. Therefore the removal of the tax is of vital importance to every theatre owner.

The Halifax District Trades & Labor Council (AFL) through a resolution called on the government to remove the tax.

Joan Crawford Pic

Warners has acquired "The Story of a School Teacher" as a starring vehicle for Joan Crawford.

New Star Renamed

Alf Kjellin, Swedish star of the motion picture "Torment," has changed his name to Christian Kelleen and will make his American debut in David O. Selznick's forthcoming production of F. Scott Fitzgerald's "Tender Is the Night."

June Vincent Signed

June Vincent has been signed for one of the leads in Columbia's "Trapped by Boston Blackie," which also features Chester Morris and Patricia White.

NFB Non-Th. Had Busy Year In '46

Report of the activities of the National Film Board, whose year ends March 31st, indicates that attendance at the gratis showings of its educational and documentary exhibits was greater than ever.

In 1946-47 the National Film Board operated 67 rural circuits, each of which covered a minimum of 20 points per month. Of this number, 12 circuits in Quebec, two in Ontario, and one each in New Brunswick, Manitoba and Alberta, carried films in the French language. The Board also assisted provincial and local agencies in operating 90 supplementary circuits across Canada. The total rural audience reached during the year was 2,760,443. At showings held for students in the schools the average monthly audience was 109,957.

At March 31, 1947, there were 156 film libraries in the nine provinces. These were operated by public libraries or community organizations for the storage and distribution of 16 mm. films. The audience reached through this means totalled 2,481,000 for the year. There were also 195 centres in which local organizations formed film councils or committees to sponsor film distribution and projection service in the community.

The National Film Board completed and released 164 films, including newsreels and trailers, during 1946-47. Of this number 22 English and 19 French language subjects were included as regular items on entertainment programs in more than 300 of Canada's commercial theatres. These reached an estimated audience of over 2,000,000 theatre-goers monthly. Included also in regular theatre programs were 48 newsreels, clips, and trailers produced by the National Film Board. In addition some subjects were produced in Dutch, Spanish, and Portuguese, and these together with a large number of the English and French productions, were distributed overseas.

Republic Purchase

Republic has purchased "The Thrill Man," an original story by Franklin Andreon and Sol Shor of the exploits of movie stunt men.

Robinson To Script

Casey Robinson will script Warners' "Bright Leaf."

Haydn To Direct

Richard Haydn has been signed by Paramount to direct "Tatlock Millions" as his first directorial attempt.

Critics Name Fox Film '47's Best

Twentieth Century-Fox's "Gentleman's Agreement" was voted the best film of 1947 by the New York film critics at their 13th annual meeting.

The selection was made by a vote of nine to seven. The seven cast their ballots for "Great Expectations." Sixteen of the 17 critics representing all the metropolitan newspapers participated in the voting.

Other selections were:

Best director, Elia Kazan for "Gentleman's Agreement" and "Boomerang." Kazan received 11 votes, two were cast for John Ford for "The Fugitive" and three for Canadian-born Edward Dmytryk for "Crossfire." The 39-year-old Dmytryk was born in Grand Forks, BC.

Best actor, William Powell for his work in "Life With Father" and "The Senator Was Indiscreet." In this selection Powell received ten votes to six for John Garfield in "Body and Soul."

Best actress, Deborah Kerr for her work in "The Adventuress" and "Black Narcissus." She received 12 votes.

Best foreign film, the Italian picture, "To Live in Peace," won with 12 votes.

Esther Forbes Wins MGM Novel Award

A novel by Esther Forbes, American authoress of some eight books, tentatively entitled "The Running of the Tide," has won the semi-annual Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Novel Award, it was announced recently. The award carries with it a minimum of \$150,000 to the author with a possibility of \$250,000 contingent upon sales, plus an additional \$25,000 should the book win the Pulitzer Prize. Motion picture and allied rights belong to MGM.

"The Running of the Tide" is a story of Salem, Mass., in the early nineteenth century. It will be published by the Houghton-Mifflin Company.

Intern'l Offers 7 From Hwd. E-Lion

(Continued from Page 1)

on hand were Jack Bellamy, Saint John; Gerald Chernoff, Montreal; and Irving Cohen, Toronto.

Griesdorf, International's president and general manager, convened the meeting following his return from the New York gathering of the Hollywood Eagle-Lion organization, presided over by A. W. Schwalberg, vice-president and general sales manager, with whom he discussed the Canadian situation.

After the Toronto meeting Griesdorf left for a tour of International's western branches for talks with the managers about the product, which includes Pathe (British) features.

He listed the new block as being comprised of "The Return of Rin Tin Tin," filmed in Cinecolor and starring Rin-Tin-Tin III, grandson of the first "Wonder Dog" with that name; "T-Men," starring Dennis O'Keefe and based on actual case histories from the files of the USA Treasury Department; "Out of the Blue," from the novel by Vera Caspary, authoress of "Laura," and starring George Brent, Virginia Mayo, Turhan Bey, Carole Landis and Ann Dvorak; "Love From a Stranger," written by Agatha Christie, directed by Richard Whorf (on loan from MGM) and starring Sylvia Sydney, John Hodiak, John Howard and Ann Richards.

Also "Bury Me Dead," an unusual whodunit starring June Lockhart, Cathy O'Donnell, Greg McClure and Mark Daniels; "Linda Be Good," a musical starring John Hubbard, Marie Wilson and Elyse Knox; and "Headin' for Heaven," a comedy starring Stuart Erwin and Glenda Farrell.

The Edward Small reissues are "The Corsican Brothers," starring Douglas Fairbanks, Jr., Akim Tamiroff and Ruñ Warwick, and "South of Pago Pago," starring Victor McLaglen, Jon Hall and Frances Farmer.

The company will deliver the six Eddie Dean and eight Al Larrue features in the 1947-48 list as promised but the following year there will be only eight Eddie Dean musical westerns.

Added To Cast Of New Columbia Pic

Anton Kosta, Maurice Marsac and Arthur Dupuis have been added to the cast of "The Woman from Tangier," Columbia mystery melodrama with Adele Jergens, Stephen Dunne and Michael Duane. Harold Daniels directs the Martin Mooney production.

Rank Discusses UK Problems

In his recent address to the shareholders of Odeon Theatres of Britain J. Arthur Rank provided an interesting picture of the problems of the United Kingdom's motion picture industry during the present economic crisis. This page is devoted to a digest of his speech.

WHEN I entered the industry, British films were with some notable exceptions at a low ebb both in this country and abroad. I came to the conclusion that the first thing which had to be done was to ensure that British films were acceptable in the world markets. I, therefore, authorized the making of a number of films which were known as "prestige films." I have been criticized that they have cost too much. There may be some justification for this but some of the films which I have in mind have enhanced the reputation of our films so that today they are acceptable in the world markets. The second problem was to ensure that the films we made would be shown in those overseas markets. My experience in commerce had taught me that to achieve results even the best goods require their own sales organization. We set about to create this and I am happy to say that today we have selling organizations in practically all countries of the world except the United States of America where our films are distributed by Universal, in which we have a large interest, and Eagle-Lion Films Inc., in which we have no interest but where we have a very close association with the people concerned.

The third factor which had to be tackled was how to make screen playing time available for our films as, even if we made the finest films, we should have had great difficulty in securing adequate playing time if we had no control over the screens and this applied particularly to the countries of the Commonwealth. We have rectified this position by entering into partnerships with experienced exhibitors in the countries concerned and we now jointly operate theatres with them and in this way have ensured an outlet for our films.

The position we have reached today is this. We have the means of making pictures, we have the means to distribute them, and we have ensured that the pictures we make and distribute will have a chance to make good.

ON THE 6th August, 1947, His Majesty's Government imposed a 75 per cent ad valorem tax on importation of foreign films, the immediate effect of which was that the American producing companies decided not to send any more films to this country.

This tax completely changed the whole position of the British film industry. We were faced with an entirely new set of circumstances, one of which would be a shortage of film. You may say "but this shortage of film may not continue and I, as a preference or ordinary shareholder of Odeon Theatres, would prefer to take that risk" but let us for a moment consider the national position.

His Majesty's Government have told us that there is a grave gap between the amount of goods which we export and the amount which we require to import and that further a large portion of these goods must be bought in the dollar area.

Ministers have clearly indicated that the grave economic problems which face this country today are going to take years of hard work and effort to solve and during that period we are going to have an era of austerity. The effect of the ad valorem duty has indicated that the Government are of the opinion that we can afford to pay at the present time the sum of between £4,000,000 and £5,000,000 per annum to America for their films. It is my opinion that whatever the outcome of the negotiations now going on between the British Treasury and the United States film interests, there will not be for many many years a free flow of films into this country. The effect must be to create some resentment in the American industry but I think that the majority of our friends there will not quarrel with us or try to increase our difficulties as the result of our unhappy economic situation. But the effect of those circumstances placed upon me a responsibility which we all felt it was not fair I should bear. My position was that I was interested in approximately 52 per cent of the issued capital of General Cinema Finance Corporation while 48 per cent was held by outside people, some of whom have become friends of mine, it is true, but I was not responsible for their original investment in



J. ARTHUR RANK

the company. Now, I had to consider the position of the holders of this 48 per cent of the shares in General Cinema Finance Corporation, which company controls Gaumont British. If a complete stoppage of the flow of American films to this country continued this would lead to a serious shortage, and it would be my duty in the interests of those shareholders to see that the films which were made by the General Cinema Finance group passed to Gaumont British which would leave Odeon without British films.

WE are planning 38 feature films for 1948 but this could not be done without further finance. Odeon could find this finance and was prepared to find it, because your directors do not believe that your theatres can be supplied with product unless an increased number of British films is available. They were not however prepared to find this finance unless Odeon benefitted directly from the success which they believe will attend this expanded production.

On page 5, paragraph 3, of the

statement to the Shareholders of 11th December, 1947, we showed the basis adopted in the consolidated balance sheet of General Cinema Finance for the valuation of the film production expenditure. This means in simple language that we debit our Profit and Loss account with the estimated loss on a film as soon as it is released but only take credit for profits when the whole of the cost has been recovered in cash. Film distribution is a slow business. No producing company can hope to make every picture in a given year a successful one. It would not be unreasonable to assume that some of them may be unsuccessful.

It therefore follows that the estimated losses on those unsuccessful films would be charged forthwith to Profit and Loss account but no credit for the profits accruing on the other successful films would be brought into the accounts maybe for two or three years, i.e., when the cost has been recovered. The effect of this is that on an expanding business, as in the case of General Cinema Finance, the profits are kept low during the expanding period and do not even out until the period of expansion is behind us.

Stage Star Assigned

Patricia Neal, Broadway star, has been signed to a long-term contract by Warner Brothers and will make her screen debut in the feminine lead in "John Loves Mary."

MPTAO Eastern Div Hears James Hillock

Members of the Eastern Division of the Motion Picture Theatres Association of Ontario and their guests recently enjoyed the second annual dinner of the Association at the Standish Hall in Hull.

Guest speaker was James Hillock of the Ottawa Evening Citizen, whose subject was his impressions of the motion picture industry. He was thanked by Henry Marshall. Gordon Beavis toasted the ladies and the response was given by Mrs. Lois Gauthier. Isser Singerman proposed the toast to the King and Morris Berlin and Robert Martin provided the entertainment. Toastmaster for the occasion was Frank Gallop and the address of welcome was made by President John Kurk.

NOW!

WARNER *Canadian* **NEWS**

NOW!

"INTRIGUE"

is
the
new

RAFT

picture!



for that **GEORGE RAFT**
PLUS business

plus

luscious **JUNE HAVOC**

plus

lovely **HELENA CARTER**

plus

a sock national ad
campaign in Life, Look,
Photoplay, and the
top screen mag list

plus

the kind of sure-fire
merchandising you're
always sure of from **UA**

INTRIGUE a Star Films presentation with **TOM TULLY • MARVIN MILLER • DAN SEYMOUR**
J. C. Flippen • Phillip Ahn • Charles Lane • Marc Krah • Screenplay by Barry Trivers and
George Slavin Produced by **SAM BISCHOFF** Directed by **EDWIN L. MARIN**